

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Shoji AIHARA et al. T. C. Art Unit : 3724  
Appl. No. : 10/578,440 (U.S. National Stage  
of PCT/JP2004/016312) Examiner : S. M. Michalski  
I. A. Filed : November 4, 2004 Confirmation No. : 9055  
For : BAND SAW MACHINE, SAW BLADE ATTACHING METHOD  
SAW BLADE DRIVING METHOD AND CUTTING METHOD  
IN BAND SAW MACHINE

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AF  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

This paper is in response to the Final Official Action dated March 9, 2009, setting a three month statutory period for response extending until June 9, 2009. Applicants have concurrently herewith filed a Request for Extension of Time, together with the appropriate fee, extending the period for response one month until July 9, 2009. Should any additional extension of time be necessary to maintain the pendency of this application, including any extension of time required to place the application in condition for allowance by an Examiner's Amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee to Deposit Account 19-0089.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, as well as an indication of the allowability of all the claims pending in the present application.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 3 of this response.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this Response.